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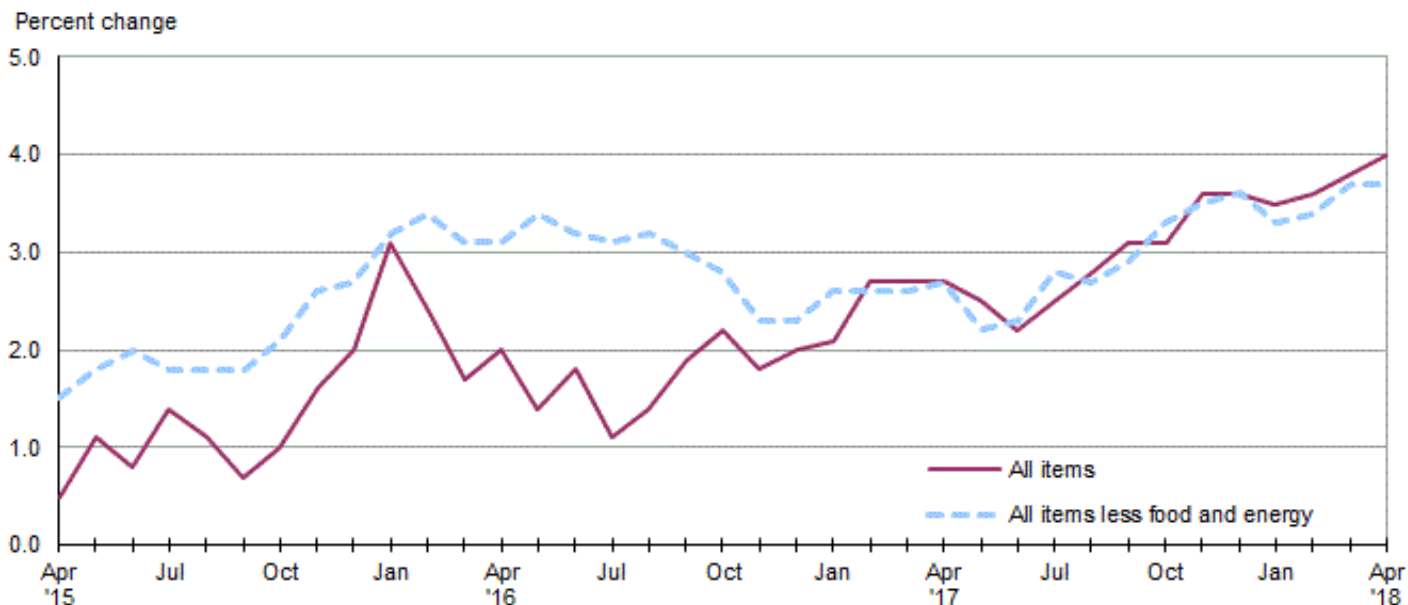
### Consumer Price Index, Los Angeles area — April 2018

**Area prices were up 0.4 percent over the past month, up 4.0 percent from a year ago**

Prices in the Los Angeles area, as measured by the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), rose 0.4 percent in April, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. (See [table A](#).) Assistant Commissioner for Regional Operations Richard Holden noted that the April increase was influenced by higher prices for shelter and gasoline. (Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, month-to-month changes may reflect seasonal influences.)

Over the last 12 months, the CPI-U rose 4.0 percent. (See [chart 1](#) and [table A](#).) Energy prices jumped 11.5 percent, largely the result of an increase in the price of gasoline. The index for all items less food and energy increased 3.7 percent over the year. (See [table 1](#).)

**Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, Los Angeles, April 2015–April 2018**



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

### Food

Food prices increased 0.7 percent for the month of April. (See [table 1](#).) Prices for food at home increased 0.8 percent, and prices for food away from home rose 0.6 percent for the same period.

Over the year, food prices rose 2.4 percent. Prices for food away from home rose 3.6 percent since a year ago, and prices for food at home rose 1.4 percent.

### Energy

The energy index increased 1.8 percent over the month. The increase was mainly due to higher prices for gasoline (3.6 percent). Prices for natural gas service decreased 6.5 percent, and prices for electricity declined 0.4 percent for the same period.

Energy prices jumped 11.5 percent over the year, largely due to higher prices for gasoline (18.7 percent). Prices paid for electricity advanced 2.5 percent, but prices for natural gas service dropped 10.1 percent during the past year.

### All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy edged up 0.2 percent in April. Higher prices for shelter (0.7 percent) and new vehicles (0.6 percent) were partially offset by lower prices for recreation (-2.9 percent) and apparel (-0.7 percent).

Over the year, the index for all items less food and energy increased 3.7 percent. Components contributing to the increase included shelter (5.3 percent) and apparel (4.9 percent). Partly offsetting these increases was a price decline in recreation (-2.8 percent).

**Table A. Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim CPI-U monthly and annual percent changes (not seasonally adjusted)**

Month	2013		2014		2015		2016		2017		2018	
	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual
January.....	0.8	2.0	0.5	0.8	-0.3	-0.1	0.7	3.1	0.9	2.1	0.8	3.5
February.....	0.7	2.2	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.1	0.0	2.4	0.6	2.7	0.7	3.6
March.....	0.1	1.3	0.6	1.0	1.0	0.5	0.3	1.7	0.3	2.7	0.4	3.8
April.....	-0.4	0.9	0.0	1.4	-0.1	0.5	0.2	2.0	0.2	2.7	0.4	4.0
May.....	0.1	1.0	0.4	1.7	1.0	1.1	0.5	1.4	0.3	2.5		
June.....	-0.1	1.4	0.1	1.8	-0.3	0.8	0.1	1.8	-0.2	2.2		
July.....	-0.1	1.3	0.1	2.0	0.7	1.4	0.0	1.1	0.3	2.5		
August.....	0.1	0.8	-0.1	1.8	-0.3	1.1	0.0	1.4	0.3	2.8		
September.....	0.2	0.6	0.0	1.7	-0.4	0.7	0.2	1.9	0.4	3.1		
October.....	0.1	-0.1	-0.1	1.4	0.2	1.0	0.4	2.2	0.4	3.1		
November.....	-0.5	0.4	-0.7	1.3	0.0	1.6	-0.4	1.8	0.1	3.6		
December.....	0.0	1.1	-0.5	0.7	-0.1	2.0	0.0	2.0	0.0	3.6		

**The May 2018 Consumer Price Index for the Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim area is scheduled to be released on June 12, 2018.**

### Consumer Price Index Geographic Revision for 2018

In January 2018, BLS introduced a new geographic area sample for the Consumer Price Index (CPI). As part of the new sample, Los Angeles and Riverside have separate indexes. The first indexes using the new structure are published for the first time this month. Additional information on the geographic revision is available at: [www.bls.gov/cpi/additional-resources/geographic-revision-2018.htm](http://www.bls.gov/cpi/additional-resources/geographic-revision-2018.htm).

## Technical Note

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a measure of the average change in prices over time in a fixed market basket of goods and services. The Bureau of Labor Statistics publishes CPIs for two population groups: (1) a CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) which covers approximately 93 percent of the total population and (2) a CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) which covers 29 percent of the total population. The CPI-U includes, in addition to wage earners and clerical workers, groups such as professional, managerial, and technical workers, the self-employed, short-term workers, the unemployed, and retirees and others not in the labor force.

The CPI is based on prices of food, clothing, shelter, and fuels, transportation fares, charges for doctors' and dentists' services, drugs, and the other goods and services that people buy for day-to-day living. Each month, prices are collected in 75 urban areas across the country from about 5,000 housing units and approximately 22,000 retail establishments--department stores, supermarkets, hospitals, filling stations, and other types of stores and service establishments. All taxes directly associated with the purchase and use of items are included in the index.

The index measures price changes from a designated reference date (1982-84) that equals 100.0. An increase of 16.5 percent, for example, is shown as 116.5. This change can also be expressed in dollars as follows: the price of a base period "market basket" of goods and services in the CPI has risen from \$10 in 1982-84 to \$11.65. For further details see the CPI home page on the Internet at [www.bls.gov/cpi](http://www.bls.gov/cpi) and the BLS Handbook of Methods, Chapter 17, The Consumer Price Index, available on the Internet at [www.bls.gov/opub/hom/homch17\\_a.htm](http://www.bls.gov/opub/hom/homch17_a.htm).

In calculating the index, price changes for the various items in each location are averaged together with weights that represent their importance in the spending of the appropriate population group. Local data are then combined to obtain a U.S. city average. Because the sample size of a local area is smaller, the local area index is subject to substantially more sampling and other measurement error than the national index. In addition, local indexes are not adjusted for seasonal influences. As a result, local area indexes show greater volatility than the national index, although their long-term trends are quite similar. **NOTE: Area indexes do not measure differences in the level of prices between cities; they only measure the average change in prices for each area since the base period.**

The Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim. metropolitan area covered in this release is comprised of Los Angeles and Orange Counties in the State of California.

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**Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)**

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Feb. 2018	Mar. 2018	Apr. 2018	Apr. 2017	Feb. 2018	Mar. 2018
<b>Expenditure category</b>						
All items .....	263.012	264.158	265.095	4.0	0.8	0.4
All items (1967=100) .....	777.054	780.441	783.207	-	-	-
Food and beverages .....	257.405	258.222	260.079	2.3	1.0	0.7
Food .....	257.827	258.777	260.623	2.4	1.1	0.7
Food at home .....	253.747	255.143	257.249	1.4	1.4	0.8
Cereals and bakery products .....	258.340	264.806	262.157	-	1.5	-1.0
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs .....	272.744	273.788	280.771	-	2.9	2.6
Dairy and related products .....	240.785	240.792	243.081	-	1.0	1.0
Fruits and vegetables .....	347.056	340.905	344.170	-	-0.8	1.0
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials(1) .....	256.499	256.945	259.957	-	1.3	1.2
Other food at home .....	201.782	206.279	205.510	-	1.8	-0.4
Food away from home .....	258.638	259.111	260.662	3.6	0.8	0.6
Food away from home .....	258.638	259.111	260.662	3.6	0.8	0.6
Alcoholic beverages .....	236.063	235.057	236.947	-0.2	0.4	0.8
Housing .....	295.865	297.597	299.048	4.5	1.1	0.5
Shelter .....	339.782	342.368	344.663	5.3	1.4	0.7
Rent of primary residence(2) .....	357.582	360.197	361.853	5.1	1.2	0.5
Owners' equiv. rent of residences(2)(3) .....	353.332	355.109	357.725	5.2	1.2	0.7
Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence(1)(2) .....	353.312	355.088	357.704	5.2	1.2	0.7
Fuels and utilities .....	316.214	313.553	309.868	1.2	-2.0	-1.2
Household energy .....	269.354	266.350	261.504	-0.7	-2.9	-1.8
Energy services(2) .....	268.008	264.960	260.036	-0.6	-3.0	-1.9
Electricity(2) .....	314.409	314.409	313.199	2.5	-0.4	-0.4
Utility (piped) gas service(2) .....	208.717	199.139	186.105	-10.1	-10.8	-6.5
Household furnishings and operations .....	117.688	117.664	117.630	0.2	0.0	0.0
Apparel .....	111.522	115.021	114.195	4.9	2.4	-0.7
Transportation .....	210.627	210.389	213.267	7.4	1.3	1.4
Private transportation .....	206.780	207.223	209.653	8.6	1.4	1.2
New and used motor vehicles(4) .....	92.700	91.964	92.077	-	-0.7	0.1
New vehicles(1) .....	170.211	168.677	169.728	-	-0.3	0.6
Used cars and trucks(1) .....	266.071	269.645	268.930	-	1.1	-0.3
Motor fuel .....	262.851	267.930	277.701	18.9	5.6	3.6
Gasoline (all types) .....	256.766	261.783	271.328	18.7	5.7	3.6
Gasoline, unleaded regular(4) .....	257.233	262.317	271.996	18.8	5.7	3.7
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade(4)(5) .....	246.483	251.497	260.162	18.8	5.5	3.4
Gasoline, unleaded premium(4) .....	245.261	249.697	258.276	18.1	5.3	3.4
Motor vehicle insurance(1) .....	748.204	748.204	748.204	-	0.0	0.0
Medical care .....	474.901	479.468	478.342	2.3	0.7	-0.2
Recreation(6) .....	108.050	107.255	104.097	-2.8	-3.7	-2.9
Education and communication(6) .....	144.182	143.910	143.872	1.3	-0.2	0.0
Tuition, other school fees, and child care(1) ..	1,775.997	1,775.997	1,775.946	-	0.0	0.0
Other goods and services .....	426.575	426.264	428.541	4.4	0.5	0.5
<b>Commodity and service group</b>						
All items .....	263.012	264.158	265.095	4.0	0.8	0.4
Commodities .....	180.711	181.734	183.180	3.8	1.4	0.8
Commodities less food & beverages .....	140.115	141.151	142.349	4.8	1.6	0.8
Nondurables less food & beverages .....	189.149	192.270	194.773	9.0	3.0	1.3
Durables .....	92.618	91.866	91.917	-1.9	-0.8	0.1
Services .....	336.286	337.544	338.034	4.1	0.5	0.1

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) - Continued**

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Feb. 2018	Mar. 2018	Apr. 2018	Apr. 2017	Feb. 2018	Mar. 2018
<b>Special aggregate indexes</b>						
All items less medical care .....	253.782	254.794	255.804	4.1	0.8	0.4
All items less shelter.....	229.387	229.885	230.208	3.1	0.4	0.1
Commodities less food .....	144.387	145.383	146.614	4.6	1.5	0.8
Nondurables .....	224.821	226.959	229.225	5.4	2.0	1.0
Nondurables less food.....	194.286	197.226	199.730	8.3	2.8	1.3
Services less rent of shelter(3).....	340.340	339.702	337.602	2.3	-0.8	-0.6
Services less medical care services.....	324.337	325.325	326.005	4.3	0.5	0.2
Energy .....	266.998	269.295	274.038	11.5	2.6	1.8
All items less energy .....	264.830	265.909	266.600	3.5	0.7	0.3
All items less food and energy .....	266.332	267.434	267.945	3.7	0.6	0.2

**Footnotes**

(1) Indexes on a December 1977=100 base.

(2) This index series was calculated using a Laspeyres estimator. All other item stratum index series were calculated using a geometric means estimator.

(3) Indexes on a December 1982=100 base.

(4) Special index based on a substantially smaller sample.

(5) Indexes on a December 1993=100 base.

(6) Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

- Data not available

NOTE: Index applies to a month as a whole, not to any specific date.